



State of Tennessee Department of Children's Services

## **Administrative Policies and Procedures: 15.7**

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**Subject:**           **Consent To Adoption Of Child Fourteen (14) Years Of Age Or Older**

Supersedes: None

**Local Policy: No**  
**Local Procedures: No**  
**Training Required: No**

**Approved by:**

**Effective date:**       **04/01/98**

**Revision date:**

### **Application**

To All Adoption Services Employees.

**Authority:**       TCA 37-5-112; TCA 36-1-117 (i)

### **Policy**

All children placed for adoption that is 14 years of age and older must consent to their adoption.

### **Procedures**

- A. Able to consent**
1. Child must sign a sworn, written consent to the adoption.
  2. The consent is to be filed with the Petition to Adopt and the consent of the minor is to be recited in the Order of Adoption.
- B. Unable to consent**   When the child age 14 or older does not have the ability to consent, a guardian ad litem for the child shall be appointed by the court.
- C. Guardian ad Litem**   The guardian ad litem must investigate the appropriateness of the proposed adoption and give or withhold consent on behalf of the child.

**D. Fees**

Guardian ad litem fees may be considered and included in the non-recurring expenses for a child who is eligible for adoption assistance.

**Forms**

CS-2585                      Consent To Adoption By Minor Who is Fourteen (14) Years of Age or Older

CS-2586                      Consent By Guardian Ad Litem To adoption of Mentally Disabled Minor Who Is Fourteen (14) Years or Older

**Collateral Documents**

*Bulletin 45, SS-6-95, December 28, 1995, "Revised/New Adoption Forms"*

**Standards**

None